



WHITSTABLE URBAN DISTRICT

1954

ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

In Office 1955-56.

Chairman of the Council
Councillor W.C. Harvey, J.P.,

Chairman of the Health Committee
Councillor Miss M.A. Powell

Clerk and Chief Financial Officer
F.A. Tomlinson Esq., F.I.M.T.A.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector
F.W.I. Whitehouse Esq., M.R.S.I.,

Surveyor and Water Engineer
G.S. Dunkin Esq., B.Sc.,

Public Health Department, Gate Lodge, The Castle, Whitstable. Tel: Whitstable 2233.

Population Mid 1954 17,140

Area 7,640 Acres

Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the annual record of information on public health matters for the year 1954. This should be read in conjunction with the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report recently presented.

I wish to thank Mr.Whitehouse and your other Chief Officials and staff for their helpful co-operation, and to express my appreciation of your constant interest in public health affairs.

Your obedient Servant,

MALCOLM.S.HARVEY, M.B.,Ch.B.,D.P.H.,

VITAL STATISTICS

Population: 17,140 Mid-year compared to 17,220 in 1953. There was no change in the area of the urban district.

Births Total 214, 114 male, 100 female. (Total 211 in 1953), giving a crude birth rate of 12.48 per 1,000 population, compared to a figure of 15.2 for England and Wales. Correction for population make-up (comparability factor 1.28) gives a corrected live birth rate of 15.97 per 1,000 population.

Deaths Total 287, 155 male, 132 female. (Total 283 in 1953) giving a crude death rate of 16.74 per 1,000 population compared to 11.3 per 1,000 for England and Wales. Correction for population make-up (factor 0.59) gives a corrected death rate of 9.87 per 1,000.

There were 9 Infant Deaths all in the first 4 weeks of life. Four still births added to these gives a Peri-Natal death rate of 59.5 per 1,000 live and still births. This rather high figure is caused by the number of infant deaths, the causes of which were as shown.

Cause of Infant Death	Under 24 hrs		1 day - 4 wks		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Prematurity	-	-	3	3	6
Blood disease of the newborn	-	2	-	-	2
Pneumococcal Meningitis	-	-	1	-	1
	-	2	4	3	9

Four of the six cases of prematurity survived only 1 day, the other two survived less than a week. If comment is justified on such figures with a birth total of 214, I would say that efforts to prevent premature birth and to maintain well nourished expectant mothers, is the only safeguard against such losses. The two deaths from blood disease of the newborn (erythroblastosis foetalis) are a challenge to our ability to deal with this hazard now that blood examination in the ante-natal period for the presence or absence of the rhesus factor gives us warning of the possibility of it. The infant death from pneumococcal meningitis reminds us that such infections are no less hazardous to the very young by reason of the availability of antibiotics.

CAUSES OF ALL DEATHS

Cause	1954	1953
Tuberculosis. Respiratory	2	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	-
Infective and Parasitic Diseases -	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm. Stomach	5	8
" " Lung, Bronchus	11	4
" " Breast	4	12
" " Uterus	3	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms	37	25
Leukaemia and Aleukaemia	2	2
Diabetes	1	-
Vasc:Lesions of Nervous System	43	34
Coronary Disease, Angina	34	32
Hypertension with Heart Disease	4	2
Other Heart Disease	69	57
Other Circulatory Disease	17	18
Influenza	-	3
Pneumonia	4	5
Bronchitis	3	18
Other Respiratory Diseases	5	-
Ulcers of Stomach and Duodenum	3	4
Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea	3	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	5	4
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	3
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	1
Congenital Malformation	-	3
Other defined or ill-defined diseases	23	29
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	4
Other Accidents	5	7
Suicide	-	3

All Causes Male Female

1954 - - 155 132
287

1953 - 135 148
283

Death Rates for certain Diseases - 1954

Respiratory Tuberculosis

Whitstable - 1.17 per 10,000.
Eng: & Wales 1.6 per 10,000.

Cancer of Lung and Bronchus

Whitstable - 6.43 per 10,000.
Eng: & Wales 3.69 per 10,000.

Other Cancers

Whitstable - 28.7 per 10,000.
Eng: & Wales 16.66 per 10,000.

The higher level for cancers is accounted for by the higher age level of the community
(Comparability factor 0.59)

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Infectious Diseases in 1954

Disease	Quarters of the Year				By Age Groups					Totals	
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	0-4	5-9	10-14	15+	65+	1954	1953
Scarlet Fever	2	2	2	-	3	1	2	-	-	6	14
Measles	-	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	163
Whooping Cough	38	12	2	-	28	23	-	1	-	52	14
Pneumonia	7	3	2	9	2	-	-	11	8	21	22
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia										5	7
Erysipelas										2	3
Meningococcal Infection										-	1
Dysentery										1	1
Food Poisoning										-	2
Tuberculosis. Respiratory										9	2
Tuberculosis. Other Forms										2	-

TUBERCULOSIS: Detail

Age Distribution of Notifications of all forms of Tuberculosis

	Male	Female
Under 15	1	1
15 - 25	-	1
25 - 45	1	2
Over 45	4	1
Totals:	6 Male	5 Female

Respiratory	Male	6	Female	3
Other Forms	Male	-	Female	2

Number on T.B. Register 31/12/54 (1953 figures in parenthesis)

Respiratory	Male	79 (76)	Female	51 (47)
Other Forms	Male	13 (16)	Female	27 (26)

A notified case of tuberculosis remains on the register for some years after the disease has become quiescent, usually five years in the case of respiratory tuberculosis and three years in non-pulmonary tuberculosis, or where the chest physician declares the case to be fully recovered. Modern methods of surgical eradication can hasten cure and may warrant earlier removal from the register on the chest physician's advice. Cases may also come onto the register by transfer into the district, or are removed by transfer to another district or existence.

The problem of tuberculosis is still of vital importance. Early identification of infection is the most important present need.

Immunisation and Vaccination

The following figures have been supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health and concern this district only.

Children Immunised against Diphtheria during 1954

Year of Birth	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	Total
Primary Inoculations	17	87	18	3	3	2	16	13	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	163
Re-inforcing Inoculations	-	-	-	-	3	40	48	27	5	4	4	6	-	-	-	137

The following Table shows children under 15 on 31/12/54 who completed a course of immunisation in the last 15 years.

Year of Birth	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	Total
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster) 1950 - 1954	34	27	127	105	110	111	180	204	141	152	135	147	127	97	17	1714
1949 or earlier	72	111	19	41	21	22	13	7	9	5						325

Assuming a population under 15 years of 3,300, this gives only a 50% level of full immunity.

The following Table shows vaccinations to children during 1954.

Year of Birth	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	Before 1940	Total
Primary Vaccination	65	38	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	5	112
Re-Vaccination	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	24	31

As the total births in 1954 totalled 214, and as the corresponding birth figures for 1953 and 1952 were 211 and 228, the level of infant vaccination is only 50% in this district. This is not a satisfactory level.

It is always possible that children are being immunised and vaccinated for whom a notice is not being sent to the County Medical Officer of Health. But they must be very few, and there is reason enough to be worried about the apathy or forgetfulness of an appreciable number of parents in the matter of having their children protected against these dread diseases.

GENERAL MATTERS

Housing

Whilst the public health department is not directly concerned with applications for council houses, it is frequently involved in cases where there is a medical aspect to the need, or where re-housing is justified on such public health grounds as overcrowding or unfitness of the present dwelling. While no numerical record of such cases is kept, they are numerous. In giving a considered opinion on a medical case it is often necessary to consult with the family doctor or the consultant involved. Damp in a house is an unknown quantity in relation to health. Statistics dispel a direct association with rheumatism. But damp and comfort are seldom found together and in many medical conditions cure and full recovery are difficult to attain without comfort and peace of mind. A damp wall or a wet ceiling which is draining away warmth in its demand for evaporation heat and is passing on the water vapour to another part of the house to be condensed out on any cold wall, is a drain on all comfort in the home.

During the year the survey under Housing Acts and the Housing Repairs and Rents Act was started, and as will be seen from the Sanitary Inspector's report the total number of inspections (including Public Health Act work) was 2,732.

Slaughterhouses

With the release of meat control and the return of private slaughtering all slaughterhouses in the district were inspected and advice given on their suitability. Several had been put to other use during the period, and without radical improvement were unfit to licence. Finally four were licensed temporarily until the end of the year, and since then slaughtering has been centred on the Abattoir at Canterbury which seems to be meeting the need adequately.

Shellfish

During the year the normal attention was given to the cleansing and preparation of shellfish for sale. Sampling of cockles showed the absence of any organisms of the salmonella group, but also showed a wide variation in standard of cleanliness of the product, a matter which was followed up.

Milk

It will be noted (see Chief Sanitary Inspector's report) that good progress had been made towards a safe milk supply, and that we shall shortly have all milk supplied in the district either pasteurised or tuberculin tested.

OTHER MATTERS

An interesting and puzzling complaint centred on a made up road in the centre of the town. Residents complained of overflow and nuisance from some new drainage work in the road, and described how puddles of soapy and nasty smelling fluid seeped out of the top surface of the road, especially after rain. This was found to be quite unconnected with drains, and was due to the nature of the slag from which the tarmacadam top had been made. This had a high sulphide content, partly soluble in water. Rain caused this to dissolve out as greyish sludge and microbial action originating from nearby leafy vegetation was thought responsible for the break down of soluble sulphide to gaseous hydrogen sulphide obnoxious to passers-by. Once the nature of the complaint was determined it was quickly remedied by the Surveyor.

Detail of the work of the Public Health Department will be found in Mr.Whitehouse's excellent report herewith.

WHITSTABLE URBAN DISTRICT 1954

Chairman of the Council - Councillor J.P.Prangnell, J.P.
(from 1/1/54 to 20/5/54)
Councillor W.C.Harvey, J.P.,
(from 20/5/54 to date)

Chairman of the
Health Committee -- Councillor Miss M.A.Powell

Members of the
Health Committee - Councillors K.J.Baldwin, F.T.S.Chant,
G/Capt.J.H.Dand, P.J.Fossey,
G.H.G.Foreman, E.Grummytt, W.C.Harvey,
Lt.Col.A.A.Hawkes, W.J.King, R.S.Maflin,
J.T.Martin, J.P.Prangnell, C.M.Robinson,
G.Vickery, Miss M.A.Powell and
Mrs.E.J.Phillips.

Staff of the
Health Department - F.W.I.Whitehouse, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

G.W.Carr, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Additional Sanitary Inspector.

P.K.Marsh,
General Assistant

Miss V.Slingsbury
Clerk

Clerk of the Council and
Chief Financial Officer
F.Tomlinson, F.I.M.T.A., A.R.V.A.,

Surveyor and Water Engineer
G.S.Dunkin, B.Sc(Eng), A.M.I.C.E.,

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

GATE LODGE,

THE CASTLE,

WHITSTABLE.

AUGUST 1955.

To: The Chairman and Members
of the Whitstable Urban
District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my ninth Annual Report of the work
carried out during the year 1954.

G E N E R A L

Total number of inspections made was 6,713 made up as follows:-

Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	226
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Milk Regulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Ice Cream Premises and Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Butchers Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	121
Other Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	116
Cafes, Restaurants, etc..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Food Preparing Rooms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Hawkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Dwellinghouses (P.H.A) 1st Visit	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	202
Dwellinghouses (P.H.A) Re-visit	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	249
Dwellinghouses (Housing Act)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,530
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Verminous Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	87
Camping Sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	190
Refuse Heaps and Accumulations.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	103
Re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	362
Drains Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	349
Drains Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77
Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Heating Appliances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8

Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Housing Repairs and Rents Act..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
	(Council Premises..	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Rodent Control	(Dwelling Houses...	...	...	...	...	...	...	142
	(Agricultural Premises...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
	(Business Premises.	...	...	...	...	...	...	101
Port Health	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
Petroleum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Factories Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	142
Shops Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	82
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Unsound Food	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	125
Bedding and Disinfection.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Refuse Collection and Disposal.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	530
Civil Defence	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	96
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	130

NUISANCES ABATED

During the year the following nuisances were abated:-

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Eaves gutters and rainwater pipes repaired or renewed..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Doors and windows repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Dirty rooms cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Sinks repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Stoves repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Brickwork repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Fireplaces repaired and renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Drains relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
W.C's repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Ceiling and wall plaster repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Rising and/or penetrating damp.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Miscellaneous repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22

H O U S I N G

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year:-

- (1) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)... .. 2,732
(Includes external inspections carried out in connection with housing survey)

(2)	(a)	Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1)) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations ...	3
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	3
(3)		Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	3
(4)		Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation....	121
2.		Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:-	
		Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	86
		Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-	
A.		Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936..	NIL
B.		Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-	
	(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	8
	(2)	Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
	(a)	By owners	6
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	NIL
3.	C.	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-	
	(1)	Number of dwellinghouses demolished... ..	2

	(2)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	1
D.		Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	....	...	NIL
4.		Housing Act, 1936, Part 1V, Overcrowding:-			
(a)	(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	4
	(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	8
	(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	29
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding relieved during the year..	...	...	1
(c)		Number of cases of overcrowding relieved.	...	...	1
(d)		Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	6
(e)		Number of new cases of overcrowding	...	...	1

NEW HOUSES DURING 1954

(a)	Total number of dwelling houses on plans submitted during the year	...	...	...	215
(b)	Total number of houses erected during 1954	...	...	...	171
(c)	Houses erected by Local Authority.	...	...	...	41
(d)	Houses erected by other persons...	...	...	...	130

INSPECTION OF FOOD

MEAT SUPPLIES

Termination of meat and livestock control resulted in the return of private slaughtering and marketing of meat in the early part of July.

Prior to the outbreak of war there had been seven slaughterhouses in the Whitstable area, none of which had been operated since the period of control. All slaughtering for the year was carried out at various Ministry of Food slaughterhouses.

Five applications for renewal of licences were received, four of which were granted and one refused on public health grounds.

The licences were issued for a limited period having regard to the Government's policy of moderate concentration and the fact that the new slaughterhouse erected at Canterbury was considered capable of meeting the needs of the surrounding district.

The advent of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1954, extended local authorities powers to close private slaughterhouses. This enabled local authorities who had not provided public slaughterhouses but who were of the opinion that there was adequate alternative slaughtering accommodation in the neighbouring district to meet the requirements of their own area, to close their private slaughterhouses.

The Council's attention was drawn by the Ministry to the close proximity of the Canterbury slaughterhouse and after full consideration and consultation with the local meat traders, preliminary steps were taken to effect closure of all private slaughterhouses.

Details of carcasses inspected during the period July to December are as follows:-

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Inspected	105	48	67	162	506
<u>All diseases except T.B.</u>					
Whole Carcasses	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	11	8	-	-	6
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	11%	17%	-	-	1%
<u>T.B. only</u>					
Whole Carcasses	1	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	10	9	-	-	12
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	11%	19%	-	-	2%

UN SOUND FOOD

The following table shows the amount of unsound food voluntarily surrendered during the year, for which condemnation certificates were issued:-

					lbs
Meat	...	...	...	...	1,231
Tinned Meat	...	...	...	...	529
Slaughterhouse Meat and Offal	...				1,738
Fish	...	...	...	...	229
Tinned Fish	...	...	...	...	8
Tinned Milk	...	...	...	...	74
Cheese	...	...	...	...	132
Tinned Fruit	...	...	...	...	388
Jam	...	...	...	...	23
Eggs	...	...	...	...	17
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	<u>410</u>
					4,779
					<u><u>4,779</u></u>

FOOD HYGIENE

Routine inspections were carried out of all the various food shops and food preparing premises, having particular regard to the requirements of the Council's Clean Food Byelaws, 382 visits being made in this connection.

Six samples of shellfish were taken for bacteriological examination, none of which contained disease producing organisms.

MILK SUPPLIES

There were registered in the area four dairies and twelve distributors of milk. Four dealers bottling licences, two supplementary licences for pasteurised milk, and one supplementary licence for tuberculin tested milk were issued.

The results of the samples taken, details of which are given below, denote that a high standard of cleanliness was maintained:-

Twenty-one samples of Tuberculin Tested bottled milk, of which nineteen passed the test.

Eighteen samples of Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) bottled milk, all of which passed the test.

Six samples of Pasteurised bottled milk, all of which passed the test.

Two further samples were taken for biological examination which were of a satisfactory nature.

At the end of the year all dairies with one exception were selling either Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested milk, and preliminary steps had been taken by the remaining dairy for the installation of pasteurising equipment.

All the dairies are now provided with modern bottle washing equipment and have satisfactory storage arrangements.

ICE CREAM

Whilst the number of premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream was twenty, three premises only were carrying out such manufacture. The number of premises registered for the sale only of ice cream was ninety-one, of which number thirty sell pre-packed ice cream.

The tendency for traders to purchase direct from wholesalers rather than produce their own ice cream continued.

Of the twenty samples taken, sixteen were placed in Grade 1, one in Grade 2, three in Grade 3 and none in Grade 4.

No organisms of a disease producing nature were found in any of the samples.

REGISTRATION OF FOOD HAWKERS

During the year two persons were registered as food hawkers under the Whitstable U.D.C. Act of 1948. No premises were registered for storage purposes. The total number of registrations were twenty-one persons and five premises, of which number sixteen are actually operating.

Registrations were issued on an annual basis with conditions based on recommendations of the Catering Trade Working Party.

SHOPS ACTS

The administration of the Shops Acts is carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors under powers delegated to this authority by the County Council, and a report in this connection has already been submitted to the Council.

WATER SUPPLIES

Six samples of drinking water were taken from piped supplies for bacteriological examination, all of which were satisfactory.

One sample was taken for chemical and bacteriological examination, which was likewise satisfactory.

The whole of the area, with one minor exception, has a satisfactory water supply, approximately 99.5% of all houses having an individual piped supply.

SWIMMING BATH

The private sea water swimming bath in the West Beach area continued to operate during the year. Chemical sterilisation of the water is carried out, and bacteriological reports on the water by the County Analyst were all of a satisfactory nature.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Four licences were issued by the Council in respect of the sale of pet animals.

Licence conditions, which are based on recommendations made by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, are being complied with.

FACTORIES ACTS

The following statistics relate to the operation of the Factories Acts:-

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948

1 - INSPECTIONS

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	23	34	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority...	93	92	6	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	16	-	-
TOTAL	116	142	6	-

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

2 - CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding ...	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature ...	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation ...	1	1	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient..	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to outwork) ...	3	1	-	-	-
TOTAL	7	5	-	-	-

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

One factory only is registered in connection with the use of rag flock for the manufacture of new articles, and there are no premises in the area where rag flock is manufactured.

PEST CONTROL

Fifty-one verminous rooms were disinfested and fifteen wasps nests were destroyed.

RODENT CONTROL

The following statistics denote the amount of work carried out by this department during the year:-

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agri- cultural	All other (including business premises)	Total
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1. Total No. of properties in Local Authority's District	18	6979	24	1028	8049
2. No. of properties inspected by L.A. during 1954 as a result of	(a) -	118	2	20	140
(a) notification (b) survey or otherwise	(b) 6	30	6	54	96
3. No. of properties inspected (see Section 2) which were found to be infested by rats	Major 3	-	-	-	3
	Minor -	92	1	11	104
4. No. of properties inspected (see Section 2) which were found to be seriously infested by mice	-	16	-	10	26
5. No. of infested properties (see Section 3 and 4) treated by L. Authority	3	108	2	21	133
6. No. of notices served under Section 4:					
(1) Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
(2) Structural Works (i.e. proofing)	-	-	-	-	-
7. No. of cases in which default action was taken by L.A. following issue of a notice under S.4.	-	-	-	-	-
8. No. of "block" control schemes carried out:			5		

Two Maintenance Treatments of the sewers were carried out during the year with the following results:-

Test Baiting Treatment - 4th and 5th May 1954.

Number of manholes baited	...	...	31
Number of manholes showing 'takes'	...	...	6

No.1. Maintenance Treatment - 18th,19th,20th and 21st May 1954.

Number of manholes baited	...	...	70
Number of manholes showing pre-bait take	...	...	23
Number of manholes showing complete pre-bait take on one or both days	...	...	7

No.2. Maintenance Treatment - 19th,20th,21st and 22nd October 1954.

Number of manholes baited	...	...	88
Number of manholes showing pre-bait take	...	...	21
Number of manholes showing complete pre-bait take on one or both days	...	...	10

No full-time operator is employed for this work, which is carried out by Mr.P.Marsh, General Assistant, with occasional additional labour from the Surveyor's Department when necessary.

PETROLEUM REGULATIONS

The Department is responsible for the administration of these enactments, thirty-two licences being issued for the year under review. Visits were made to ensure that licence conditions were complied with, and liaison is now maintained with the local Fire Prevention Officer who visited and checked all licensed premises towards the end of the year.

PUBLIC MORTUARY

The Public Mortuary is situated in Island Wall, in connection with which the following bodies were received:-

	Males	Females
Number of bodies admitted:-		
Resident	10	5
Non-Resident.. ...	3	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	13	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Number of bodies admitted for Post Mortem examinations ... ..	...	19
Number of Inquests ... ..	...	4

CAUSES OF DEATH

Natural Causes	...	...	15
Suicide	...	...	1
Misadventure..	...	...	3

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION

A total number of 86 rooms were disinfected during the year, together with the following articles:-

Mattresses	...	...	...	103
Pillows	...	...	...	279
Bolsters	...	...	...	3
Blankets	...	...	...	23
Sheets	...	...	...	12
Quilts	...	...	...	4
Cushions	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous...	...	...	...	<u>2</u>
				429

The Council's steam disinfecting plant is situated at Station Road, and comprises a vertical cross tube boiler with oval jacketed disinfector.

CONTROL OF MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The number of licensed camping sites in the area was seventeen, providing accommodation for 1,241 dwellings and comprising $63\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

A good standard was maintained by the licensees during the year, and the gradual elimination of unsightly dwellings continued, so much so that there are now very few caravans on the sites other than those of the trailer type of the proprietary brands.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

REFUSE COLLECTION

A once weekly collection of domestic refuse was maintained during the year, two vehicles being employed full time for the purpose, incorporating side and rear loading respectively. A third vehicle serves as a standby and is used full time for two days and sometimes three days a week.

It is becoming more essential than ever to ensure that vehicles do not reach the stage where frequent and extensive repairs are required, as disruption of the service is inevitable when a vehicle is undergoing repairs and no standby is available.

The steady increase in the number of houses built continued, and frequent adjustments to cope with the additional work were made. There is no lightening of the load in the summer months as the decrease in weight of refuse is followed by an increase in bulk occasioned no doubt by the influx of visitors to the town.

A separate weekly collection of waste paper is made from business premises, and waste paper saved by householders is collected in company with domestic refuse.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Disposal of refuse is carried out at the Council's Tip at Yorkletts which has been in use since 1936. A useful amount of land reclamation is being carried out in that an area of low lying marshy ground will eventually be available for agricultural purposes.

A calf dozer is employed at the Tip which facilitates the work of disposal, particularly in connection with the covering of the refuse with soil. It is of insufficient size, however, to move and dispose of refuse from a central point, and it is still necessary to construct temporary sleeper roads to the dispersal points.

The 'picking rights' of salvageable materials, other than waste paper, are let off on an annual basis.

The amount of waste paper salvaged during the year was 136 tons 19 cwts.

The income derived from salvage operations was as follows:-

	£.	s.	d.
Amount received for salvage of materials from Tip (other than waste paper)	...	...	...
Waste Paper	...	...	...
	110.	0.	0.
	904.	13.	9.
	£1014.	13.	9.

REVENUE

The amount realized for work carried out under a chargeable basis in connection with disinfection and disinfestation measures was £27. 5. 4.

CIVIL DEFENCE

The Welfare side of Civil Defence continued to be the function of the Sanitary Inspector who as Head of the Welfare Section is responsible for the training of volunteers and the organisation of the Section generally.

C O N C L U S I O N

May I conclude by expressing my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Committee for their encouragement and consideration, to Dr. Harvey for his help and advice, to my staff for their loyal assistance and for the facilities and co-operation always extended by officials of other departments.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

F.W.I. WHITEHOUSE, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

